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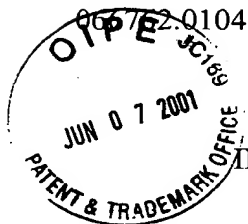
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of: Nancy Anne Winnard, et al.

Serial No.: 09/641,666

Filing Date: August 18, 2000

Group No. 2123

Title: ENGINEERING CHANGE DECISION ANALYSIS SYSTEM AND
METHODOLOGY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the initial review of this non-provisional utility continuation patent application entitled *Engineering Change Decision Analysis System and Methodology* by Nancy Anne Winnard, et al., please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The specification is amended at page 1, line 13 as follows. Please refer to the attached sheet showing a marked-up version of the amendments to the specification.

RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

A1
This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/164,649, entitled *Risk and Decision Analysis Model*, and filed on November 10, 1999.